

Marine Mammals Data User Agreements and Source Reports: Gulf of Mexico

The marine mammal and sea turtle density estimates in MarineCadastre.gov are a subset of a larger data set being delivered via the [Cetacean and Sound Mapping website](#) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Cetacean Density and Distribution Mapping Working Group is creating comprehensive and easily accessible regional cetacean density and distribution maps that are time- and species-specific. Products are delivered via their [Cetacean Data Availability matrix](#). The data matrix provides information on the year-round presence and absence of cetacean species in each of seven regions. It presents the data in six tiers: tier 1, habitat based density models; tier 2, stratified density models; tier 3, the probability of the species' occurrence; tier 4, any records that exist; tier 5, presence as indicated by experts; and tier 6, absence as indicated by experts. Lastly, it serves to highlight regions and time periods where no data are available.

Further explanation of the need, use, and caveats associated with this data set can be found in the MarineCadastre.gov "[So What?](#)" series write-up on marine mammals.

DATA USER AGREEMENTS:

The models of marine mammal and sea turtle density on this website are provided as a service to other users. Users of the models agree to the following:

- Not to use the model outputs for research or in any publication, product, or commercial application without prior written consent of the original data provider. For the density models in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, the data provider is Joel Bell (joel.t.bell@navy.mil).
- To cite the appropriate report or website after approval of use is obtained. To forward the citation of any publication or report that made use of the models to the data provider.
- Not to redistribute the models, but to refer interested parties to NOAA's Cetacean and Sound Mapping website (<http://cetsound.noaa.gov/index.html>).

CITATION:

Department of the Navy (DON). 2007. Navy OPAREA Density Estimate (NODE) for the Gulf of Mexico. Prepared for the Department of the Navy, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia. Contract #N62470-02-D-9997, CTO 0046. Prepared by Geo-Marine, Inc., Hampton, Virginia.

Website: http://seamap.env.duke.edu/downloads/resources/serdp/Gulf_of_Mexico_NODE_Final_Report.pdf

DISCLAIMERS:

While every effort has been made to ensure the quality of the models, neither the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) nor the U.S. Government, nor any of their employees or contractors, assumes any legal liability for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of the models. Please contact the data provider with any questions about the models. References to trade names or commercial entities do not imply endorsement by NOAA.